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# THE WHITE OAK FARMS

ANNUAL CATALOGUE

THE WHITE OAK CIRCULAR



THOMASVILLE, N. C.

"The Honeysuckle City."



# GLADIOLUS



UNITED L. & P. CO. NEW YORK

The Most Showy and Brilliant of all Bulbous Plants



# ..Ghoicest Gladiolus..

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ALL THE HUES AND COLORS OF THE RAINBOW.

**MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWERING SUMMER BULBS.**

The Gladiolus, with its beautiful flowers clustered on tall spikes which are two feet or more in height, and often several from the same root, is the most attractive of all the summer flowering bulbs, and deserves a place in every garden or lawn, as they are sure to flower and do well with very little care, and have no insect enemies or diseases.

The flowers are of almost every desirable color—brilliant scarlet, crimson, creamy-white, striped, blotched and spotted in the most curious manner.

We have been experimenting for years with Gladiolus to obtain most distinct and showy varieties, and have now an assortment of these beautiful and popular summer flowering bulbs that is unrivaled for brilliancy and variegation of coloring, strength and vigor of growth, flowers of exceptionally large size, and distinctive and attractive appearance. We claim to have the best on the market.

## **CULTURAL DIRECTIONS.**

Set the bulbs from six to nine inches apart and about four to five inches deep. Plant as soon as the earth is in a mellow condition, usually from the middle of April to first of June. In the fall, before hard frosts, take up the bulbs, remove the tops and leave to dry in the air for a few days, and store in some cool place secure from frost until spring. When these *bulbs are delivered in the fall*, keep in a cool cellar with temperature just above freezing point, and plant in the spring as directed above.

## *The* White-Oak Farms,

Growers and Dealers in

Flower Bulbs & Plants & R.C. Rhode Island Red Chickens

THOMASVILLE, N. C. "The Honeysuckle City"

"Say it with Flowers"

# First National Bank

THOMASVILLE, N. C.

Oct. 8, 1921.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

This is to certify that I have known Mr. J. W. Sowers, owner of the White Oak Farms, for a number of years and have always found him to be honest and honorable in all his dealings and can heartily recommend him to any one with whom he may seek for a business connection.

Yours very truly,  
R. L. POPE,  
Cashier.

RLP:eo

THE WHITE-OAK FARMS are located just outside the corporate limits of Thomasville, 5 miles southwest of High Point on the main National Highway, between Washington, D. C., and Atlanta, Ga.

The principal business at the White-Oak Farms is the breeding of the WHITE-OAK STRAIN R. C. RHODE ISLAND REDS the famous winter layers, and the production of **Gladiolus Bulbs** of many choice varieties, and for this the soil and climate are peculiarly suited, this year we offer in addition some beautiful Irises to make the garden gay before Gladioli flaunt their "Torches of Beauty."

"The Gladiolus is supreme" no matter what other plants may be found in your mid-summer garden, the Gladiolus will dominate them all with its rainbow array of color, its stately and graceful spikes of bloom held aloft so proudly, and no other flower is so easy of cultivation and so certain of success.

Be your color preference what it may, there is a "Glad" that will have special appeal for you, the newer sorts embracing infinite shades of pink and rose, white soft yellow, brilliant scarlet and crimson, rare blue and orange tones.

The very moderate prices of the older sorts (and many of them are wonderfully beautiful) plead for their generous use; but as velvets or tapestries of rich and exclusive design are recognized and appreciated at a glance, so the aristocrats of the Gladiolus world are full of distinction and well worth the higher prices which must necessarily be asked for the unusual and unique.

#### **A FLORIST'S GLADIOLUS AND YOURS**

Did you ever pause to admire a flower-shop window filled with Gladioli in a riot of gorgeous tints and wish you might grow such flowers in your own garden? Well, you can, and very easily too. We are going to tell you how.

#### **THEIR CULTURE**

Gladiolus are sun-worshippers, but as to soil are not fastidious so long as it is not extremely heavy. Even then, the texture may be lightened by the addition of sand or well-decomposed manure, the latter should always



be supplied the preceding season as all bulbs resent its addition at planting time, of course rich soil and liberal water in dry weather will mean bigger flowers and longer spikes of them. Gladioli are almost humanly responsive to extra care.

### **PLANT THEM DEEP**

A bulb of moderate size should be set five inches deep, larger ones six and even seven inches. They will grow more vigorously and support their blooms better than with shallow planting. Six inches apart in the row and rows a foot apart is an excellent spacing when planted for mass effect or for cut flowers. A plot ten by ten feet will readily accommodate a couple of hundred bulbs, so no garden is of too microscopic dimensions to hold a few.

### **SUCCESSIONAL PLANTING IS SUGGESTED**

By setting the first bulbs when the earliest vegetable garden is made, then at intervals of ten days until July first, an abundance of bloom may be had from late June until frost, if it is desired to emphasize the display at a given point, plant a third or a fourth of the bulbs, marking the unplanted spaces with little twigs stuck into the ground, to be removed as the remaining bulbs are put in.

Its fine to have a new home—but the grounds are likely to look decidedly bare the first year. Plant Gladioli liberly between the small shrubs and roses (in a year or two the shrubbery will shade the Gladioli too much, unless it is employed as a background) and in perennial borders while the plants are establishing themselves. Your grounds will be on dress parade from June until frost, and the following season the bulbs can be put in a new location for cut flowers, renters particularly appreciate the ease with which Gladioli adapt themselves to a new home.

### **WILL THEY GROW IN MY CLIMATE?**

Bulbs have gone to Maine and southern California, to favored portions of Alaska and to Georgia, to New Zealand and to Central America. They will surely thrive for you if your growing season is three months or longer.

### **AT THE SEASHORE**

Remember that Gladioli give extraordinary blooms at the coast, and at just the right

time for you to enjoy them during a summer sojourn.

### **OUT OF THE ORDINARY GIFTS**

Gladiolus Bulbs are gifts truly appreciated by the possessor of even the most modest garden. We make up attractive boxes of any desired value from \$1.50 up and mail with givers card any time between January 15th and June 15th. A dozen cut Gladioli make an ideal gift to an invalid or convalescent, or for making an anniversary. From July 1st until October 1st we are prepared to send such boxes at \$2.00 and \$3.00, charges prepaid within three hundred miles of Thomasville, N. C., the donor's card is included upon request.

### **FOR VASE USE**

Cut when the first bloom is just opening. By removing the faded flowers from the lower part of the spikes, a bouquet will retain its beauty a full week and sometimes more.

### **THE GLADIOLUS IN GARDEN PICTURES**

Although the Gladiolus has for many years been one of the most popular flowers, it has not yet come fully into its own. Its usefulness as a factor in achieving lovely pictures in the garden is but half suspected, and while, as a cut flower its importance has long been recognized, the more subtle employment of these lovely flowers in crowning interior decorative schemes is almost an untried field.

In the garden we are coming more and more to plan our beds and borders with a view to bringing about beautiful pictures, rather than merely to grow healthy, luxuriant plants. The haphazard assemblages of old gardens are not the ideal of today, now when set side by side two plants we do not intend that later on, at the period of their blossoming, they shall cry out at each other, but that the form and color of one shall enhance the beauty of the other; and so on throughout the border until we have attained a harmonious breadth of color that is a continual delight to the eye. It is in this sort of gardening that the Gladiolus is pre-eminently fitted to shine. No other flower can boast so wide a range of color; we may choose at will just the desired hue for the completion of any flower picture, and, moreover, by nicely timing the planting of the

bulbs, the great spikes may be brought to perfection at any time from late June throughout the autumn that suits the plans of the picturemaking gardener.

Heretofore the Gladioli have been largely planted in beds to themselves or in long rows this is well enough for cutting or for special display, but let us suggest a few associations for some of the newer varieties that have seemed to us particularly happy in the borders among other flowers of their season. Our feeling is that when thus used the bulbs should be set rather close together and in groups of not less than twelve of one variety, in this way the fine colors count distinctly in the general effect and the sturdy spikes lend strength and definition to the borders, whereas when scattered about in twos and threes these desirable ends are not attained. Red is ever the difficult hue to handle in the garden. Such gorgeous Gladioli as war and principine need careful placing if they are to live at peace with their neighbors. For ourselves we like a cool setting for such brilliant beauties among lavender and dim blue flowers—campanulas, aconites, goat's rue, clary and meadow sage; and nothing could be more effective than sheaves of late planted red and scarlet Gladioli thrusting through a haze of September flowering. Michaelmas daisies—lavender white and purple, white musk mallows with scarlet Gladioli planted among them give a gay effect and the splendid war massed against white phlox shows at its best. Pink Gladioli, on the contrary, may be used in groups among flowers of almost any color, so happy are they in their friendships save in the case of red. A delightful effect is brought about by planting a dozen or so of bulbs of some silvery pink variety like panama around a well blossoming time of baby's breath (*Gypsophila paniculata*) at blossoming time the lovely pink blossoms seem to float above a delicate mist. A splendid salmon-pink Gladiolus of particularly fine form is butterfly, the throat is flushed with warmer color. Etendard has pale pink petals and crimson-spotted throat. All these pink Gladioli are particularly delightful for use in the gray willow receptacles now so much in demand for porches and indoor decoration.

Herada is a pure mauve in color and very lovely. In a border we like it in a setting of soft gray foliage, lyme grass, thalictrum glaucum, nepeta mussini, with no warm-toned flowers about so, too, must be placed that somber beauty, prince of India, with its soft rose-colored petals overlaid with smoky clouds through which shine strange blue lights.

Blue Jay is the best of the so-called "Blue" Gladioli. It is a beautiful variety, warm and rich in tone with a soft bloom like the cheek of a plum upon the finely formed petals, these "blue" Gladioli planted in bold groups in borders or beds where the general effect is light in color—pink and lavender and buff—are very telling, and should be a good deal more used than they are. Surely no one need sigh for a gay garden for four months of the year who plants these lovely, willing flowers with a free hand.

## **INDOOR HARMONIES WITH GLADIOLI**

Flowers are now used with telling effect to complete or accentuate a color scheme, and for this nothing is quite so satisfactory as the Gladiolus. Its range of color is boundless, its lasting qualities remarkable, it can be employed equally well in stately or graceful arrangements, depending upon the varieties chosen, and it is available over a long season.

### **FOR LUNCHEON OR DINNER**

Blue Jay and Nora combine especially well with the soft blues so often made the keynote of modern dining rooms. For the table there can be nothing more exquisite than a low decoration formed with a few well-blown spiges of Gladioli reposing on a gackground of ferns, or perhaps grape leaves and tendrils. Try the prince of Wales and other salmon pinks.

### **STUDY YOUR FLOWERS AND RESEPTACLES**

Arranging Gladioli is a fascinating pastime. Experimentation will show you that the daintiness of many sorts is enhanced by containers of clear glass, while other sorts of more decided color take on additional beauty through the repition of the flower tone in vase or bowl. Undecorated ivory belique for any flower will gratify the most discrimina-



ing taste. If the exposure of your rooms and general color scheme permit, place a bowl of crimson glow or war or butterfly where a stray beam of sunlight can fall upon the flowers. They will fairly glow. Their rich crimson and salmon are intensified by the autumn leaves of the woodbine or other vivid foliage.

### NEMED VARIETIES

America—Beautiful, soft shell-pink, with a lavender tinge. Flowers are large, wide open, with several blooms open at one time. Fine for cut flowers. The most popular variety and one of the easiest to grow. 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

Blue Jay—(true) Light blue, with white center. Flowers wide open. This is probably the nearest to a sky blue among Gladioli. 35c each; \$3.00 per dozen.

Chciago White—white, with a faint lavender stripe in throat. Not large, but the earliest white, and in demand by florists. 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

Crackerjack—handsome large flowers of rich velvety dark red. Throat spotted with maroon on yellow ground. A gorgeous flower and one of our favorites. Very prolific, and flowers from quite young bulbs. Inexpensive. 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

Crimson Glow—the name fitly describes the color. Extra large flowers, often measuring seven inches in diameter. Tall spike of a brilliant crimson, eclipses all other reds, \$1.00 each; \$10.00 per dozen.

Francis King—salmon red, four to six large flowers open at the same time, 10c each; \$1.00 per dozen.

Glory of Holland—white with slight tinting of pale pink, 25c each; \$2.50 per dozen.

Golden Measure—the grandest novelty of all. Rich golden yellow, that long-sought color in Gladioli. Tall and vigorous in growth, often throwing two spikes of flowers. Expensive but worth it. \$5.00 each; \$50.00 per dozen.

Halley—delicate salmon pink, early, 15c each, \$1.25 per dozen.

Myrtle—a very fine pink blending into deeper pink, 35c each; \$3.00 per dozen.

Niagara—light creamy yellow, more or less splashed with pink. Large open flowers on



strong spike. Good keeper after cutting. 25c each; \$2.00 per dozen.

Peace—a grand white flower, very large, with a delicate lilac feathering on lower petals, tall, strong hardy grower. Blooms later than most, soplant early, 20c each; \$2.00 per dozen.

President Taft—rosy pink, throat yellow green blotched, carmine 25c each; \$2.00 per dozen.

President Wilson—salmon rose, lightly varigated. A new and rare variety. 50c each; \$5.00 per dozen.

“Anna Thompson”—pale sulphur yellow, flowers 5 inches in diameter, spikes 5 to 6 feet high. A first class yellow, \$10.00 each; \$100.00 per dozen.

Richard Diener—pure rose salmon, light sprinkling of ruby on creamy yellow center; this is the acme of perfection in coloring, as well as formation of spikes and plant; will rival an orchid in beauty; flowers 6 inches in diameter, spikes 5 to 6 feet high; created a sensation wherever shown, \$25.00 each.

Mrs. Leon Douglas—flesh salmon pink orange striped, light yellow and brown spotted in center; the size of the flowers we believe, is the largest in existence and all are very open and well set on the spikes; the height of the spikes are 6 to 7 feet and have up to seven side spikes on each main spike; the bulbs are of immense size; this is one of the most perfect and most beautiful varieties so far produced, 25.00 each.

War—deep brilliant red. Strong grower, with large wide open flowers. 20c each, \$2.00 per dozen.

Florists' Mixture—highly assorted kinds and colors. Good bulbs and sure to bloom. An inexpensive mixture, but excellent value for the price, as there are many fine named varieties in the lot. 5c each, 50c per dozen, \$3.50 per 100.

All the above bulbs are sent by mail or express all charges prepaid, terms strictly cash with order, remit by postal or express money order, bank draft, or registered letter.



**Rhode Island Reds** have come into prominence and favor very rapidly. They have a great many admirers and they are really a First-Class all purpose fowl, being excellent layers and splendid for the market and table purposes. The color of these fowls is of a reddish yellow with yellow beaks and legs, red combs and wattles, making the fowl very beautiful. They grow rapidly, pullets lay when quite young, they are claimed to be better than the Plymouth Rocks, by some breeders, we breed the Rose Comb variety only. We are prepared to fill all orders promptly and are sure that all who buy from us will be well pleased, we have decided to make the following very low price on eggs for hatching, by mail or express prepaid \$2.00 per 15 eggs, if interested in breeding stock please write your wants, as we can usually furnish good cockerels and pullets at reasonable prices.

#### **KENTUCKY WONDER WAX BEAN**

This is the best of all climbing wax beans, it is very similar to the green podded Kentucky Wonder, but the fine long pods are a little broader, very fleshy and quite stringless, the pods are often from 8 to 9 inches long, its earliness and hardness commend it as a pole bean well adapted even for northern latitudes, its large golden yellow pods are truly handsome and are unexcelled in quality by any wax bean. We anticipate for it a great future owing to its all around good qualities. Price by mail post paid, pint, 30c; quart 45c.

#### **HICKORY KING SEED CORN**

The growing of corn requires the expenditure of considerable labor and time; breaking and preparing the land is of primary importance and this part of the work should be well done. Break it deep, then work it thoroughly with drag harrow or disk until well pulverized

and in good tilth, planting the corn on the fresh worked soil, and right here comes the principal element as to whether you make the most of your labor and time.

## THE RIGHT KIND OF SEED

Not many farmers study their soil conditions with a view to getting the proper variety of corn well adapted to such conditions, so as to produce the best results obtainable for work and time given. We do not claim our hickory king corn will give the best results on rich low lands and bottoms, but claim it will out-yield any other corn on up lands. It will produce corn on lands where other varieties fail to make corn at all. However, on worn out, exhausted soils we do not advise planting corn without proper fertilizers, our corn has been INTELLIGENTLY SELECTED with two purposes in view, viz: to dwarf the stalk and increase grain yield. As any observer knows, corn stalks in the south grow abnormally large and tall, thus shutting out sunlight, which is the essential thing for the production of grain, and this is why you find the ear so high on the stalk; it grows up there to get sunlight. This fault has been eliminated in this corn to a large extent. The stalk being low you can plant thicker without shutting out the light. Some people take pride in exhibiting a large tall stalk and a tremendous ear, but we ask you to consider what you have in view when corn is planted. Is it stalks 16 to 20 feet high and cobs the size of your arm? You say "No." It is the grain we want. Then by all means plant our hickory king corn. It does not draw on the fertility of your soil for the enormous production of stalks and cobs. It gives you no more of these than is absolutely necessary—long slim cobs, about the size of your thumb, small stalks and just enough shucks. This corn is uniformly sound; it resists drought. Should the fall be rainy and windstorms place it on the ground, it does not mold and rot so badly as other kinds. It has more feeding value than the big cob kinds, makes far better meal for the table use, and lastly when you fill your cribs with this corn, you can have the satisfaction of knowing it to be mostly grain, instead of a crib full of giant cobs, which are

slow to dry out, often causing your corn to mold, thereby inviting disease and death to your stock, and exposing yourself and family to the dreaded disease of pellagra. This corn is so nearly all grain that you could not afford to sell it in the ear at the usual measure of 74 pounds per bushel, as the cobs and shucks from a bushel of grain frequently weigh as little as 5 to 6 pounds. Now Mr. Upland farmer, it is up to you; if you want a good corn for your kind of land that will give you fair returns for your labor and time get our hickory king seed, prepare your soil well, fertilize if your land is very thin (for no corn can succeed on land devoid of plant food) cultivate clean, keeping the soil loose, and find yourself in possession of more corn next fall than ever before, price by mail post paid quart 30c. By express or freight peck \$1.00; bushel \$2.50. Please let us have your order early.

## THE IRIS

With all the pomp of barbaric splendor the great oriental poppies flaunt their bizarre colors, compelling the attention of the most casual observer. The big peonies, rich in their warm, glowing colors and intoxicating in their delightful fragrance, seem, in unison with all nature, to pulsate with the joy of life in the glory of June, making a universal appeal to all human interest. But the refined and delicate beauty of the Iris is hidden from the observer whose fancy is caught only by the more gorgeous and striking things, and only to those who, seeking closer acquaintance, gaze down into the heart of the flower, is revealed the rare beauty of its soft iridescence. Mysterious as the opal with its ever-changing fire, its marvelous structure more wonderful than the orchid, so fragile as to be crushed by the slightest pressure, its beauty seems wholly ethereal, making you dream of far-away things—like the smoky clouds at dusk, or the rainbow glistening in the sun.

How is it possible accurately to describe a flower of such changing hues? A little girl of ten, trying to describe the Iris said, "I really can't tell you what color it is, but its every kind of fairy color." If you yield to the magic spell of the Iris, it will lead you

across the border into a wonderland of delight, for an Iris garden is a floral world in itself, so vast that to mention all the interesting forms would be impossible.

We are offering only the Blue Bird this season, color dark blue, price 25c each, \$2.50 per dozen by mail prepaid.

To all of our customers both old and new we desire to thank you for all the business given us during the past, and will appreciate any orders that you may send us in the future and will do our best to treat you in a way that will cause you to re-order from us. Terms strictly cash to big and little alike, remit by P. O. money order, express money order, registered letter, or certified check, will take clean 1c and 2c U. S. postage stamps for amounts less than 50c.

We prepay charges only on things mentioned in this catalogue, as prepaid, all other goods will go by freight or express at customers expense, please state whether you wish goods shipped by freight, express or mail address all orders to

**THE WHITE OAK FARMS,**

**THOMASVILLE, N. C., U. S.A.**

**"The Honeysuckle City."**





